

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A data compressing apparatus for outputting raw data, a pointer, and a command from a data string, said data compressing apparatus comprising:
substituting means ~~which outputs~~ for outputting the command in place of ~~said the~~ raw data or ~~said the~~ pointer when a data string as a target of ~~said the~~ command coincides with a data string as a target of ~~said the~~ raw data and a data string indicated by ~~said the~~ pointer or a combination ~~of them~~ thereof.
2. **(Currently Amended)** The data compressing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~further comprising substituting means which,~~ when a code length assigned to the command is shorter than a length of data comprising the raw data and the pointer, said substituting means replaces the raw data or the pointer serving as a source with the command.
3. **(Currently Amended)** The data compressing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~said the~~ command is constructed by a command code and an extension code.
4. **(Currently Amended)** The data compressing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein ~~said the~~ extension code is constructed by a code which is indicative of a kind of command and an operand.
5. **(Previously Presented)** The data compressing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
a first bit is used to distinguish the raw data, the pointer, and the command, and
a second bit is used to distinguish the pointer and the command.
6. **(Currently Amended)** The data compressing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein ~~further comprising substituting means which,~~ when each of a plurality of commands is constructed by a kind of command and an operand, said substituting means

executes encoding for gradually increasing a code length in accordance with the kind of each command.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The data compressing apparatus according to claim 5, ~~wherein further comprising substituting means which,~~ when each of a plurality of commands is constructed by a kind of command and an operand, said substituting means executes encoding for gradually increasing the code length in accordance with a parameter of each operand.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The data compressing apparatus according to claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein said substituting means ~~which executes, every for each~~ predetermined data unit, a process for, when a data string designated by a specific pointer coincides with data strings designated by a plurality of other pointers, replacing ~~said the~~ specific pointer with a definition command and replacing ~~said the~~ plurality of other pointers with ~~the a~~ code substitution command corresponding to ~~said the~~ definition command.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The data compressing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein among the data strings existing in ~~said the~~ predetermined data unit, the data string which appears first is selected as a data string designated by the specific pointer.

10. **(Currently Amended)** The data compressing apparatus according to claim 8, ~~further comprising substituting means which,~~ wherein when a plurality of definition commands are set, said substituting means counts frequencies of appearance, in the predetermined data unit, of a plurality of data strings designated by the pointer with replaced with ~~said the~~ plurality of definition commands, and forms a definition table in which ~~said the~~ definition commands have been disclosed in an order of ~~said the~~ frequencies of appearance.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The data compressing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein ~~said the~~ definition table is newly formed ~~every for each~~ predetermined data unit.

12. (Currently Amended) The data compressing apparatus according to claim 8, ~~further comprising wherein said~~ substituting means ~~which discriminates~~ determines whether or not a data amount of the data string designated by the specific pointer coincides with a data amount of a data string designated by said one of the plurality of other pointers ~~or not~~, ~~discriminates~~ determines whether a difference between an address of the data string designated by the specific pointer in the predetermined data unit and an address of the data string designated by ~~said the one of the plurality of other pointers~~ coincides with a difference between an offset value which ~~said the~~ specific pointer has and an offset value which ~~said the one of the plurality of other pointers~~ has ~~or not~~, and if they coincide, determines that the data string designated by the specific pointer coincides with the data string designated by ~~said the one of the plurality of other pointers~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A data decoding apparatus, ~~in which wherein when~~ data including raw data, a pointer, and a command is inputted,

wherein the command is inputted as a substitute for raw data or a pointer from a data string when a data string as a target string of the command coincided with a data string as a target of the raw data and a data string indicated by the pointer or a combination thereof, and

wherein when the data including the raw data, the pointer and the command is inputted to said data decoding apparatus, said data decoding apparatus is operable to execute the command ~~is executed, said to return the inputted data is returned~~ to the raw data or the pointer, and ~~said to return the raw data or said the pointer is returned~~ to a target data string.

14. (Currently Amended) A data decoding apparatus, wherein

when data which has been compressed ~~every~~ for each predetermined data unit is ~~given~~ inputted in a manner such that when a data string, which is data including raw data, a pointer, and a command and which is designated by a specific pointer, coincides with data strings which are designated by a plurality of other pointers, ~~said the~~ specific pointer

is replaced with a definition command and ~~said the~~ plurality of other pointers are replaced with a code substitution command corresponding to ~~said the~~ definition command, and ~~said the~~ code substitution command is returned to the definition command, the definition command is returned to the raw data or the pointer, and ~~said the~~ raw data or ~~said the~~ pointer is returned to the data string as a target ~~every said for each~~ predetermined data unit.